

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2953

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USDOC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID

SUBJ: TAIZ AIRPORT FEASIBILITY STUDY

REF: STUDY CONDUCTED UNDER PROJECT AGREEMENT

TAR-73-104.3

BEIRUT FOR CAA

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES STUDY SHOULD PROVIDE BASIS FOR COMPLETION OF TAIZ AIRPORT ON MOST ECONOMIC AND EXPEDITIOUS BASIS. YARG IS PRESSING US ON WHAT NEXT AND DESERVES EARLY ANSWER. FEASIBILITY STUDY, AS CAST, SEEMS TAILORED TO AN AID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT WITH LIMITED EQUIPMENT COMPONENT. WE URGE AID/W GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.

2. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT REPORT WAS NOT ABLE TO GIVE MORE ATTENTION TO LARGER PROBLEM OF NATIONAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT TO TIE INTO OUR EFFORTS TO HELP RESUSCITATE YEMEN AIRWAYS CORP. BY COMBINING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OF AMERICAN AIRLINE (AS PER PANAM VISIT) FOR COMPLETE REORGANIZATION WITH FUNDING SAUDI AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD YEMENIS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM SAG. WHAT IS NEEDED IS AID-FINANCED ENGINEERING STUDY FOR REHABILITATION OF HODEIDA AIRPORT (WHICH HAS BEEN RECENTLY CLOSED

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TO JETS DUE TO SEVERE RUNWAY DETERIORATION) AND FOR

ESTABLISHING SECONDARY AIRPORTS SO THAT YAC CAN BEGIN
TO MEET DEMAND FOR INTERNAL SERVICES IN COUNTRY WITH
LARGE POPULATION, VERY RUGGED TERRAIN, AND FEW ROADS.
WE SEE AMERICAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ROLE (USAID FOR
AIRPORTS, PANAM FOR AIRLINE) WHICH WILL ACT AS CATALYST
TO OBTAIN CAPITAL ASSISTANCE FROM ARAB DONORS. COST TO
USG WOULD BE MODEST, AND WOULD NOT, IN OUR VIEW, CREATE
EXPECTATION OF USG CAPITAL ASSISTANCE IN AVIATION SECTOR.
WITH ENGINEERING DONE BY US FIRM, PROSPECTS WOULD BE
GOOD FOR SALES OF US EQUIPMENT.
CRAWFORD

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